GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:624
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013
WORKERS STRIKE IN DUBAI
Dhurve Jyoti;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of Indian and other migrant workers in Dubai have held demonstrations against their employees over low wages, forced labour and other atrocities and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a number of such workers were arrested and illegally detained without being given the benefit of legal assistance and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Embassy in Dubai has raised the issue with the officials concerned; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): During last 2 years, in a few isolated cases, employees of Fujairah National Transport Company, Arabtec and Dolphin Group, briefly went on strike to protest against non-payment of wages or adverse working conditions. These included Indian workers.

(b): Under the UAE Labour Laws, striking work is illegal. Therefore, a few striking workers, including Indians, were briefly detained in accordance with the local regulations.

(c) & (d): Issues raised by Indian workers are always appropriately taken up by the Indian Mission with the employers and local authorities for resolution. But, in cases involving illegal acts like strike, the role of the Indian Mission becomes limited.